Vol. IX. Numb. 33.

THE OBSERVATOR.

A Letter about the Northamptonſhire *Addreſs. Reflections on that of the Univerſity of* Oxford.

From Saturday, May 6, to Wedneſday, May 10. 1710.

Countrym. HEre's a Letter, Maſter, from an Honeſt Gentleman at *Northampton*, who has been ſo Kind to us, and ſo Zealous for his Country, that he has ſent us ſeveral Important Advices; I think we ought not only to drink his Health in a Bumper of *October*, but to thank him.

Obſ. With all my Heart, *Roger*; I hope the Gentleman will continue his Zeal for the Publick, and accept this our Thankful Acknowledgement of his Service: But pray what does he ſay now?

Countrym. He tells us, Maſter, that though the Malicious Enemies of the Government induſtriouſly promote ſuch Addreſſes as reflect on our Happy Conſtitution, yet Her Majeſty has Multitudes of Loyal Subjects in all Parts of Her Dominions, that are ready with their Lives and Fortunes to ſerve Her Majeſty in Defence of our preſent Happy Eſtabliſhment; and that, among others, the County of *Northampton* can make a Legion at any Time of as Dutiful Subjects as are in the Kingdom, notwithſtanding that a certain Highflown Sheriff and his Grand Jury did promote an Addreſs of a contrary Tendency; but for all his Endeavours there were ſeveral Diſſenters from it: Whereas the Excellent Addreſs from the County of *Northampton*, printed in the *Flying-Poſt* of the 4th Inſtant, was ſign'd by Sixteen Juſtices of the Peace, the whole Grand Jury, moſt of the Eminent Gentlemen of the County, and by the Aldermen and Freeholders of that Corporation.

Obſ. We are oblig'd to the Gentleman, *Roger*, for this Kind Notice. It will be the laſting Honour of that County and Corporation to have ſtood by Her Majeſty's Lawful Title and our Conſtitution, when the Faction by their Inſidious Cant (to uſe Dr. *Sacheverell*'s Words againſt himſelf and his Odious Party) bring Unwary and Ignorant People, who underſtand neither Words nor Things to agree to ſome Addreſſes that are Conſtructive Treaſon, and to others that are Directly ſo, if the 4th of *Anne*, *Cap.* 8. *Sect.* 1, and 2. be Law, which makes it Treaſon to ſay that any Perſon or Perſons have any Right to the Crown otherwiſe than according to the Act of the 1ſt of *W.* and *M.* declaring the Rights and Liberties of the Subject, and ſettling the Succeſſion; and according to that of the 12th of K. *W.* 3. *Cap.* 2. for the further Limitation of the Crown, *&c.* as mention'd in our laſt.

Countrym. There's Occaſion enough to repeat it, Maſter, that People who don't underſtand thoſe Things may have Warning, and avoid being drawn into ſuch Dangerous Practices by Crafty and Ill-deſigning Men, who ſo daringly fly in the Face of Her Majeſty and our Conſtitution. But enough of this at preſent, Maſter; I muſt beg your Opinion of the Addreſs of the Univerſity of *Oxford*, becauſe the Faction triumph on it; but for my Part I don't like it.

Obſ. You muſt be Modeſt, *Roger*; 'tis not for Countrymen, like you, to Cenſure the Proceedings of ſuch Learned Bodies of Men as Univerſities.

Countrym. No more of that I beſeech you, good Mr. *Obſervator*;—we Countrymen may have as good Senſe as you Scholards, tho' we have not ſo much Learning. I know as well that Three and Two make Five as any Univerſity-Man of 'em all. I cann't indeed Coin ſuch Nice Diſtinctions as they do, by making Her Majeſty different Titles to the Crown, to wit, one which is Hereditary, and ſome that are otherwiſe; but by their Leave, Maſter, I don't underſtand that they, or any other Subjects whatever, can make a Diſtinction where the Law has made none; this I take to be an Invaſion upon the Legiſlature, for I find no ſuch Diſtinction in the Acts juſt now mention'd, which ſettled Her Majeſty's Title. I am ſure, Maſter, if I Coin'd a Piece of Money I ſhould deſerve to be Hang'd, becauſe 'tis not only a Cheat upon the Publick, but an Invaſion of Her Majeſty's Prerogative. Tho' the Univerſity ſtand in no fear of my Oaken Towel, they ſhould have ſome regard to the Scepter, for one Blow with that is enough to knock out any Man's Brains. Let them meddle with their *Ferula*, and Chaſtize their Pupils, and not trouble themſelves with Things that don't belong to them. Who gave them a Power to explain Laws? That's the Buſineſs of the Queen and Parliament who make them, and belongs to Nobody elſe. When the Queen, Lords and Commons, have expreſs'd their Pleaſure by Acts of Parliament, 'tis the Duty of Subjects to obey, and not to diſpute, except thoſe Acts be againſt the Law of God; and I defie all their Doctorſhips to ſhew me one Text in the Bible which deprives the Queen and Parliament of a Power to *Bind the Right, Deſcent, Limitation, Inheritance, or Government of the Crown.* What do they mean then by their Hereditary Right, any otherwiſe than as the Law has declar'd it? Did not Her Majeſty in Her laſt moſt Gracious Speech from the Throne enjoin all Her Subjects *to mind their own Buſineſs, and not to revive Queſtions and Diſputes of a very high Nature, that tend only to foment, but not to heal, our Diviſions and Animoſities?*

Obſ. We all know Her Majeſty gave ſuch a Royal Injunction, *Roger*; but High Church will ſtill be meddling: 'Tis not the Firſt Time they have endeavour'd to overtop Princes and Parliaments. I think, with all Reſpect to the Univerſity, they ought to have ſhew'd a little more Deference to Her Majeſty's Speech, and to the Determinations of Parliament: Our Noble Patriots, the Lords, order'd their Slavi[illegible] Decree againſt Reſiſting of Princes on any Pretence whatever to be burnt by the Hand of the Hangman, becauſe it was inconſiſtent with the late Happy Revolution,

Revolution, as well as with Her Majesty's Title and Practice. Every one knows that Her Majesty's Concurrence with those who resisted Popish Tyranny and Arbitrary Power, which our Church thanks God for in her Office of the 5th of *November*, contributed much to the late Revolution; therefore I think the University ought, in Modesty and Duty to Her Majesty, to have excepted the Resistance then made to King *James* from their General Position, which makes *Resistance a Popish and Republican Doctrine*, without any Distinction. They who have the Art to make one in Her Majesty's Title, might very well have form'd another to save Her Majesty from the Charge of being a Republican and Papist, or practicing according to their Doctrine. This is the Natural Consequence of their Proposition; and I defie them with all their Logick to get off from it, without distinguishing so as to approve the Doctrine which they pretend to explode, *viz.* That there are Cases wherein 'tis lawful to resist Princes. But though they had no Respect to Her Majesty, they ought, according to their own Pretences, to have evidenc'd some to the Church, who blesses God, in her Office for the 5th of *November*, already mention'd, for making all Opposition fall before King *William*, of Glorious Memory, till he became our King and Governour; yet by this Proposition the University condemns the Church of *England* for maintaining a Popish and Republican Doctrine in one of her most Solemn Offices. We may add further, that if the University join with the Church in this Office, and yet maintain that Resistance of Princes on any Pretence whatever is unlawful, they make themselves abominable Hypocrites; and if they do not, they make themselves more Damnable Schismaticks than the Dissenters; for this is not only a Separation from the Body, but from the Queen, who is the Civil Head of the Church, and condemns the Methods by which she came both to the Title and Possession of the Crown.

Countrym. Hold, hold, Master, I think you need a Caution now: Don't you think the University will resent this?

Obs. I value the Resentments of no Man, or Body of Men, *Roger*, by whatsoever Titles dignified or distinguish'd, so long as I have the Law on my Side; that's Armour of Proof against all Attacks, which will not only turn the Point of a Sword, but damp a Cannon Bullet: Therefore I boldly undertake to prove, that either the abovemention'd Proposition of the University is false, or the Statutes of the 1st of *W.* and *M. Sess.* 2. *Cap.* 2. *Sect.* 9. and of the 12th and 13th of *W.* 3. *Cap.* 11. which absolve us from our Allegiance to any King or Queen that turns Papist, or marries a Papist, and settles the next Protestant Successor on the Throne as if such a King or Queen were actually dead, are no Laws; for if dethroning such a King or Queen be not Resistance, there never was nor can be any Resistance in the World. Therefore the Lord Bishop of *Sarum* has justly observ'd in his Excellent Speech on the First Article of the Impeachment of Doctor *Sacheverell*, *That these Acts have certainly put an End to the Notion of Non-resistance in any Case or any Pretence whatsoever.* Let the University take Care then that they don't burn their Fingers by attempting to rescue their Decree which the House of Lords have condemn'd to the Flames.

Countrym. I have a few Questions more, Master, to the Learned University and then shall have done. 1. How they can justifie the Calling that a Republican and Popish Doctrine in others which they practic'd themselves, without falling under their own Condemnation; for the Lord Bishop of *Sarum* tell us in that same Speech, That the Head of a Colledge came to *Exeter* to invite the Prince of *Orange*, and those who join'd him in resisting King *James* to *Oxon*, and assur'd the Prince that the University would declare for him? 2. How they can reconcile this and their Signing the Association with their Hearts and Hands, with their present Defence of Non-resistance? 3. Whether such Men, who are so much given to Change, and condemn our Standing Laws, are fit to be trusted with the Education of our Youth? 4. Whether, since they condemn themselves for having formerly practiced Republican and Popish Doctrines, they can be good Christians till they declare they were in the Wrong, and express their Publick Sorrow and Repentance for it? 5. How they can have the Confidence to pretend to be for the *Hannover* Succession when they set up for a Hereditary Right, which is contrary to it, and condemn the Resistance by which both that and Her Majesty's Title and Possession was procur'd? 6. How they can without Hypocrisie pretend to pray for Her Majesty's Success in this War, which was founded, and is still continued, on the Foot of Resisting the late King *James*, and keeping out his Pretended Son, with his Popery and *French* Slavery? 7. Whether by calling the Dissent a Damnable Schism, they don't condemn Her Majesty and the Parliament as Damnable Schismaticks for granting a Legal Toleration in *England*, and making Presbytery unalterable in *Scotland?* 8. Whether this be not a Libelling of Her Majesty's Administration, and Accusing Her to the People? And how they will reconcile it to their Pretensions of Loyalty?

In our last, Col. 1. l. 12. dele *Right*; l. 13. read *Hereditary Right*, Col. 3. l. 33. for *to* read *Two*.

Advertisements.

Just Publish'd,

HER Majesty's most Gracious Speech to Both Houses of Parliament on the 5th of April, 1710. On the Top of the Speech is Her Majesty's Picture, curiously Engraven, with proper Figures, representing Religion, Wisdom, Justice, and Moderation. The whole Printed on a Sheet of Fine Royal Paper, in a large Character, and Rul'd. Price 6 d. Neatly set off with Colours. Price 1 s. There is great Variety of the Queen's Speeches, Coloured Extraordinary, in Frames and Glasses. Sold by John King, Print and Mapseller, at the Globe over-against the Church in the Poultry. Recommended to all Lovers of their Queen and Country. N. B. At the same Place there is a few left of King William's last Speech to his Parliament.

Removed from the Golden-Ball in Christopher's Church-Yard, to the Golden-Ball in Prince's-Street, near Stocks-Market, where you may be furnished with my

ELectuarium Mirabile: Or, The Admirable Antivenereal Electuary; which infallibly Cures the most Malignant Clap, or Virulent Running of the Reins, with all its Attending Symptoms, with much more Ease, Privacy, and Safety, than the Common Methods: Any Old Gleet or Running, though of several Years standing, whether occasion'd by any Over-strain, Weakness of the Seminal Vessels, or the Relicks of a Clap, is also cured by this Infallible Remedy in a few Days Time, without Confinement, Suspicion, or the Use of Astringents; Two Pots seldom fail of making a Perfect Cure. Note, This Medicine is to be had only of the Author, at the Golden-Ball in Prince's-Street, turning down to Lothbury, near the Royal-Exchange. Advice or Medicines in any Distemper.

GEntlemen, who have any Thing to communicate to the Authors of this Paper, are desir'd to direct it to be left with B. Bragge in Pater-Noster-Row, or Mr. Janeway, Post paid. Where Advertisements are taken in, and these Papers are to be had Single, or in Volumes.

LONDON: Printed by R. Janeway, and Sold by *B. Bragge*, at the *Raven* in *Pater-Noster-Row*. 1710.